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'Big Red One' returns to Kansas

Fort Riley, communities witness division changes, welcome new commander

By Anna Morelock
Staff writer

Maj. Gen. Carter Ham first came to Fort Riley in 1975 as an ROTC cadet. He didn't see much of main post then and said he didn't recall ever being invited to the general's house. Now, just over 30 years later, that house is his.

Ham took command of Fort Riley and of the oldest division in the Army, the "Big Red One," in a ceremony Aug. 1 on Cavalry Parade Field.

The ceremony marked the return of the 1st Infantry Division (Mech) to Fort Riley from Germany after a 10-year absence. Ham accepted the division's colors from Lt. Gen. Raymond Odierno, commanding general of III Corps, the 1st Inf. Div.'s higher headquarters. Maj. Gen. Kenneth Hunzeker, who brought the division back from Germany, relinquished command of the renowned fighting division.

The transfer of authority from the 24th Infantry Division (Mech) to the 1st Inf. Div. included inactivation of the "Victory Division" and disappearance of the Taro Leaf patch its Soldiers wore on their left shoulder while serving with the 24th Inf. Div. (Mech) at Fort Riley.

Ceremony marks 'historic day'

"It's really a historic day," said Bill McKale, historian and Fort

Top photo

The uncased 1st Infantry Division (Mech) colors (front right) and colors of its subordinate units whip in the wind at the Aug. 1 ceremony transferring authority for Fort Riley from the 24th Infantry Division (Mech) to the "Big Red One."

Riley museum director, "not only for the division but for Fort Riley, the Army, for Kansas and for the nation."

The ceremony started with a bang as the 4th Battalion, 1st Field Artillery, ceremonial half section fired a replica of an 1853 cannon after a welcome for the many dignitaries. Soldiers and community members attending the historic event.

The 1st Inf. Div. band walked the field, playing for its first time in a ceremony since arriving on post, and the official party was welcomed by a 15-gun salute provided by light towed howitzer crews of the 2nd Battalion, 32nd Field Artillery, 4th Infantry Brigade Combat Team, one of the newest subordinate units of the "Big Red One."

First Sgt. Jason Scott of the Commanding General's Mounted Color Guard rode Traveler to the front of the VIP section to deliver roses to the wives of the outgoing



Maj. Gen. Dennis Hardy (front left) and Command Sgt. Maj. Marvel Dean (front second from left) finish casing the colors of the inactivated 24th Inf. Div. (Mech) while Maj. Gen. Kenneth Hunzeker (front second from right) and Command Sgt. Maj. John Fourhman (front right) finish uncasing the 1st Inf. Div. (Mech) colors Aug. 1 on Cavalry Parade Field. Hunzeker later relinquished command of the 1st Inf. Div. (Mech) to Maj. Gen. Carter Ham. Hardy leaves his post as 24th Inf. Div. (Mech) commanding general to become deputy commanding general of Third Army and U.S. Army Forces Central Command in Kuwait.

PAO/Blackmon

commanding generals, Maj. Gen. Dennis Hardy, 24th Inf. Div. (Mech), and Hunzeker. Ceremonial artillery round canisters were then presented to Hardy, Hunzeker and Ham.

The half-track provided by 1st Battalion, 16th Infantry, carried the official party — Hardy, Ham, Hunzeker and Odierno — as they inspected the formed Soldiers representing 1st Inf. Div. (Mech) and

other units stationed at Fort Riley. After the unit color bearers massed in front of the reviewing stand and the national anthem played, the 24th Inf. Div. (Mech) flag was cased and the "Big Red

One" flag was unfurled to signal the return of the "Big Red One" to Fort Riley.

"It's a wonderful day, a great moment of celebration," said U.S. Rep. Jim Ryan (R-Kan.) after the ceremony. "The ceremony and return of the 'Big Red One' to Kansas, 'represents a lot of work by an awful lot of people,' he said. It represents a happy ending with the 'Big Red One' returning, he added.

Outgoing commander thanks Soldiers

Hardy bade farewell by thanking the Soldiers standing before him on the field and the ones they represented who weren't in attendance. He recalled his fond memories of Fort Riley, including his pride in the Soldiers he's seen go to war and the ones he's welcomed home.

"Diane and I will be forever proud, very proud of all that you've accomplished," he told the troops.

Hunzeker reintroduced the "Big Red One" to Kansas with a loud "hooah," bringing applause and cheers from the crowd.

"Today we celebrate a significant milestone in the history of our great division," he said. "I've been known to say the sun always shines on the 'Big Red One,' and thank goodness the weather here in Kansas allows me to continue that tradition."

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Some 'division' Soldiers wear other unit patches

Colors of the 3rd Brigade, 1st Armored Division, fly high over Cavalry Parade Field during the Transfer of Authority ceremony Aug. 1. The "Bulldog Brigade" will be redesignated the 2nd Brigade, 1st Infantry Division (Mech), after the current 2nd Bde. completes its tour of duty in support of Operation Iraqi Freedom (in 2007). The "Bulldogs" are scheduled to modularize to a Heavy Brigade Combat Team on March 16, 2008.

Post/Skidmore



Soldiers prepare to leave Germany

Gyroscope II sends 1st Inf. Div. (Mech) back to Fort Riley

Editor's note: The following highlight in the history of the 1st Infantry Division is taken from a special edition of "Duty First," a quarterly magazine created by the Public Affairs Office staff of the "Big Red One."

By Stephen Baack
1st Inf. Div. PAO

If the saying "history repeats itself" holds any weight, the 1st Infantry Division is on track. As a quarterly magazine created by the Public Affairs Office staff of the "Big Red One."

Post first welcomed division in 1955

Gyroscope I replaced 10th Inf. Div. with 'Big Red One'

Editor's note: The following highlight in the history of the 1st Infantry Division is taken from a special edition of "Duty First," a quarterly magazine created by the Public Affairs Office staff of the "Big Red One."

By Joe Alger
1st Inf. Div. PAO

The 1st Infantry Division officially returned to Fort Riley Aug.

longest continuously serving division is doing its part to change the Army landscape.

More than 50 years ago, the division participated in the Army's first intercontinental, division-level exchange when it moved from Germany to Fort Riley and swapped places with the 10th Infantry Division. This was known as Operation Gyroscope.

In 1996, the division headquarters and adjoining units returned to Germany as part of the Army's



Division crest

restructuring. The Department of the Army again sent the division "packing" when it announced the return of the "Big Red One" to Fort Riley in July 2005.

Following that announcement, the 1st Inf. Div. put into action the plan to move its headquarters and a number of subordinate units back to the continental United States. The operation was appropriately coined "Operation Gyroscope II."

The division began to draw down personnel, turn in equip-

ment and make drastic changes across the formation in order to meet the goals of the Army Campaign Plan and the transformation initiatives of the U.S. Army in Europe.

Subordinate units inactivated, converted to become part of the 173rd Airborne Brigade or prepared to return to Fort Riley with the 1st Inf. Div. headquarters.

Operation Gyroscope II activities became quite visible during April and May 2006 as returning units took on the brunt of the

See Gyroscope II, Page 3



Division crest

The division was stationed in New York state between the wars.

In 1942, Maj. Gen. Terry Allen and the 1st Inf. Div. left New York to fight overseas in World War II.

After combating the Nazi Germans from Africa to Czechoslovakia for three years, the division stayed in Europe as an occupation force.

With the formation of West

Germany and its elections in 1949, the 1st Inf. Div. changed its role from occupation forces to defense force on the East German border between the Soviet forces and the Rhine River.

After the Korean War ended, tensions lessened with the Soviets. West Germany rearmend and prepared to join the NATO military alliance. With the easing of tensions, the U.S. Army looked

See Gyroscope II, Page 3





Post/Skidmore
Maj. Gen. Carter Ham, commanding general, 1st Inf. Div. (Mech) and Fort Riley, talks with news media representatives Aug. 1 at Riley's Conference Center after the Transfer of Authority ceremony at Cavalry Parade Field.



Post/Heronemus
The official party reviews Fort Riley Soldiers in formation as part of the Transfer of Authority ceremony Aug. 1.



Post/Heronemus
Members of the 1st Inf. Bde., 1st Inf. Div. (Mech), pass the reviewing stand Aug. 1.



Post/Heronemus
Members of the Commanding General's Mounted Color Guard re-enact a cavalry charge while the 1st Inf. Div. (Mech) band plays Gerry Owen to conclude the transfer of authority ceremony at Cavalry Parade Field Aug. 1.

Division returns

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The day may have been bittersweet for the outgoing commanders, Ham joked, but it was anything but bittersweet for him. "I can't tell you what it means to look across that field and see the 'Big Red One' home," he said. During a press conference after the ceremony, Ham said it was a little bit intimidating to be the commanding general of the 1st Inf. Div. (Mech).

"I recognize the special legacy and heritage of this division," he said. "There are heroes from the very start in 1917, the first battles in 1918, throughout World War I, World War II, in Vietnam and most recently two times in Iraq. So, I understand that there is a tremendous legacy and heritage in this very special division. The men and women that have come before us have set a very, very high standard."

Ham said that it was a dream come true for him to be able to come to Fort Riley and rejoin the 1st Inf. Div. (Mech).

"As we learned a little bit about this new assignment, one of the things that came through loud and clear from all the posts that I talked to is that there is a very special relationship between the Soldiers and families of Fort Riley and the local communities," he said.

Soldiers often return to Fort Riley and say that their best days in the Army were spent here, McKale said. Over the next five to 10 years, McKale predicted Fort Riley will see many leaders come through the ranks of the "Big Red One" who will go on to make names for themselves and for the Army at a national level.

"You look at the 1st Inf. Div. and you look at the leaders that have come through its ranks, enlisted and officer, who have gone on to important leadership positions Army-wide, and I think that we're really on the cusp of a very historic point."

Those future leaders "will have got their seasoning, so to speak,

here at Fort Riley, so they're always going to have a little bit of Kansas that they're going to take away with them," he said. "Most of the guys who serve here have a very warm spot for this post because of its history and traditions."

Ham said Fort Riley's relationship with its surrounding communities was unlike anything he'd seen in his 30 years of service.

"This closeness between the community and the military community is truly something very, very special, and I look forward to being a part of that," he said. "We will be good neighbors and good stewards."

Ham also spoke about the "Big Red One's" upcoming mission now that it has moved back to Fort Riley.

The most important thing for the division now is to form, train and prepare Military Transition Teams to deploy to Iraq and Afghanistan, he said.

"That is absolutely an essential

part of our strategy in Iraq and Afghanistan to help those nations' security forces, both military and civilian police, become better each and every day," he said. "We've got to get the training right and the support right here so they're able to accomplish that mission."

"It was awe inspiring to see that wonderful formation, all those great Soldiers, their commanders, first sergeants, the command sergeants major," Ham said of the ceremony.

"It was a wonderful ceremony and a tremendous welcome for us to come here to Fort Riley and a most appropriate way to say thanks and farewell to Maj. Gen. and Mrs. Hardy, who have been such integral parts of this community for the past three years," he added.

Anna Morelock can be reached at anna.morelock@riley.army.mil or 239-3032.

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Gyroscope II

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work required to move the personnel, equipment and vehicles to Kansas.

It was during Intermediate Staging Area operations when many of the Soldiers realized the significance of what was finally happening.

"Reality really set in," said 1st Sgt. Donald Jamison, first sergeant for Headquarters and Headquarters Company, Division

Support Command.

"We're definitely moving back to CONUS (Continental United States), back to the states, Fort Riley, Kan. It's really exciting. The Soldiers are really motivated," he said.

A lot of preparation went into getting the vehicles clean, proper preventative maintenance checks and services of the vehicles, Jamison said.

Division Soldiers worked for weeks to ensure their vehicles were as flawlessly clean as they could make them. Vehicles were inspected, cleaned, re-inspected and cleaned again until they passed all tests.

Next, more than five football fields of 1st Inf. Div. equipment were loaded onto the USNS Mendonca and SS Westward Venture, two nearly 1,000-foot long cargo

ships employed by the U.S. Navy's Military Sealift Command in Rotterdam, The Netherlands.

Nearly 300,000 square feet of cargo belonging to the division left the port in late May, en route to its final destination.

The movement of the "Big Red One" equipment and personnel to Fort Riley marks the end of another era in the 1st Inf. Div. in Europe.

Gyroscope I

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for ways to rotate units so other divisions would take turns guarding the German border.

At the time, Operation Gyroscope was the first time the Army would interchange entire divisions between overseas locations and their permanent location in the United States.

1st, 10th Division swap places

The 1st Inf. Div. and 10th Infantry Division, which had previously been at Fort Riley, were among the first units to exchange duty assignments.

At the time of the operation, there were several reasons for implementing such a drastic change in Army operations.

The new system was expected to raise the morale of troops and their families, increase combat effectiveness of the Army and lower the cost of maintaining the military establishment.

According to Gen. Matthew B. Ridgeway, the most important consideration favoring the new plan was the likelihood that troop morale would be improved through greater permanency of enlisted men's assignments.

Under the Gyroscope plan, a career Soldier would know his next assignment for years in advance and could plan accordingly.

Soldiers also would be able to travel with their families to overseas assignments as opposed to previous years when they were

forced to be away from their families for long periods of time.

In addition, by improving morale, the new system was expected to improve retention and re-enlistment rates.

While it was a peacetime operation, Gyroscope I also was intended to improve the Army's warfighting capabilities.

The movement of equipment via rail and sea transportation was basically the same method of transportation that would be used in wartime operations. Therefore, Soldiers who participated in the operations gained valuable experience in moving large units overseas.

The "Big Red One," which had been overseas in Germany for 13 years before the move, was greet-

ed by a large parade after entering New York harbor July 23, 1955.

It was estimated that the 1st Inf. Div. would return to the United States with more than 16,000 enlisted personnel, about 825 officers, 5,500 dependents, more than 1,000 private automobiles and 33 family pets.

Woods said the welcoming party in Brooklyn on the flagbedecked pier included Maj. Gen. Terry Allen, who took the division overseas on Aug. 7, 1942, to begin the longest tour of duty ever served by an American division on the continent.

The "Big Red One" remained at Fort Riley until 1996, when it moved its base of operations back to Germany, leaving one combat brigade at Fort Riley.



PAO/Blackmon

Maj. Gen. Carter Ham (left), commanding general, 1st Inf. Div. (Mech) and Fort Riley, accepts the "Big Red One" colors from Lt. Gen. Raymond Odierno after Maj. Gen. Kenneth Hunzeker (right) relinquished command of the division in a change of command ceremony Aug. 1 on Fort Riley's Cavalry Parade Field.

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New commanding general Maj. Gen. Carter Ham

Served as enlisted Soldier in 82nd Airborne Division before being commissioned in the infantry as a Distinguished Military Graduate of John Carroll University in Cleveland, Ohio, in 1976.

Assignments have given him responsibilities as a training officer at Fort Knox, Ky.; recruiting area commander; support of the Olympic Games in Los Angeles; assistant inspector general; battalion operations officer and executive officer at National Training Center; advisor to a Saudi Arabian National Guard brigade; executive officer for the Infantry School; battalion commander; command of infantry regiment; deputy commanding general for 1 Corps; commander of Multi-National Brigade-North in Mosul; and deputy director for regional operation on the Joint Staff.

His military awards and decorations include three Defense Superior Service Medals, two Legions of Merit, Bronze Star Medal, six Meritorious Service Medals, Joint Service Commendation Medal, Combat Action Badge, Expert Infantryman Badge, Parachutist Badge and Ranger Tab.

New command sergeant major Command Sgt. Maj. John Fourhman

Enlisted Aug. 19, 1975, as an armored reconnaissance specialist.

Positions have included responsibilities as a Cavalry scout, squad leader, scout section sergeant, senior drill sergeant, AERO recon platoon sergeant, senior instructor/writer/master gunner, platoon sergeant, assistant operations sergeant, first sergeant, Mounted Maneuver Battlespace Lab operations sergeant, sergeant major TRADOC System Manager for the Interim Armored Vehicle (Stryker) and Future Combat System, battalion command sergeant major and brigade command sergeant major.

Military decorations include four Meritorious Service Medals, two Army Commendation Medals, three Army Achievement Medals, Southwest Asia Service Medal with Bronze Star, Kosovo Campaign Medal with Bronze Star, Global War on Terrorism Expeditionary Medal and GWOT Service Medal.

Recipient of the Order of Saint George and the Order of Saint Maurice Medals.

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Departing CG summarizes 3 years

Hardy: 'I'd like to stay on and watch all of the changes'

By Gary Skidmore

Command Info. Officer

Maj. Gen. Dennis Hardy relinquished command of the 24th Infantry Division (Mech), inactivated the division and cased its colors Aug. 1. He moves on to his next assignment as deputy commanding general of Third Army and U.S. Army Forces Central Command in Kuwait.

Maj. Gen. Carter Ham has assumed command of the 1st Infantry Division (Mech) and Fort Riley, signifying a new era at the Warfighting Center.

Before the Transfer of Authority ceremony Aug. 1, Hardy said Fort Riley had gone through many changes since he arrived on post more than three years ago. He cited the invasion of Iraq as a major change.

"Just as the nation was at war, I found Fort Riley very much at war," Hardy said. "Our first priority in those first few months was to continue to support the warfight. From that day until today, our most important priority is supporting the warfight."

"Certainly, we're not declaring victory yet. We're probably at halftime in a major Super Bowl, maybe not even at halftime yet, and the score's going back and forth. But, by God, it's a good game," Hardy said. "I think you are getting great people back that have done these missions."

"We talk about Generation X, and some folks wring their hands," Hardy said. "I've got to tell you these are great Americans. As I look them in the eye, I know we have done everything we can to prepare them for war, and it makes you feel very, very proud."

He commented about the 76 Soldiers killed supporting the war on terrorism and the brigades of Soldiers deployed in support of the war.

"Every one of those losses obviously impacts us," Hardy said. "Managing the stress, the anxiety, the loss, inside those teams becomes one of our most important responsibilities."

Hardy said while the Army is at war, it is also transforming. The



PAO/Blackmon

Maj. Gen. Dennis Hardy, outgoing 24th Inf. Div. (Mech) commanding general, renders his last salute as he closes his departure speech with "Victory Six out."

return of the 1st Inf. Div. (Mech) from Europe reflects the United States looking to reduce the number of Soldiers based outside the country.

While Hardy said Soldiers will continue to train units for war, Fort Riley and the 1st Inf. Div. (Mech) will shoulder the duty of training Military Transition Teams that will serve as advisers

to Iraqi and Afghan military and police forces.

Teams of 11 to 15 officers and senior enlisted Soldiers will spend year-long tours as advisers to Iraqis, mentoring them so they will someday take over the task of providing their own security.

The first three teams graduated in recent days and are heading overseas. Hardy said 100 teams will be training on post by October. Fort Riley will become one of the main sites for the transition team training.

"They will be consolidating all of that training going on around the world here at Fort Riley," Hardy said. He said that, although he's been at Fort Riley for more than three years, he'd like to stay on and watch all of the changes actually take place.

"In fact, I would tell everybody, if someone could find me a loophole, I'd be more than happy to spend another five years here. I think it's going to take that long to bring this to fruition. I will definitely come back to see some of the results as we move over time."

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Commentary

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Fort Riley Post

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Riley Roundtable

This week's question:

How do you feel about the return of the 1st Infantry Division (Mech) to Fort Riley after a 10-year absence?



"I'm a reservist, but I think it will be good for the local economy. It's probably a good move, shifting U.S. forces."

Maj. Eugene Allardye
Team chief
Military Transition Team
Hometown: Saginaw, Mich.



"I think it's unfortunate about the downsizing (of the Army) in Europe. It takes away a great cultural exposure for families."

Spec. William Gentry
Helicopter mechanic
3rd Battalion, 1st Aviation
Hometown: San Diego



"I helped push them out (of Fort Riley in 1996) and I'm glad to be here to bring them home."

Sgt. Maj. Barbara Jones
G4 maintenance sergeant major
Headquarters, 1st Inf. Div. (Mech)
Hometown: Kansas City, Kan.



"I'm glad it's back here. It's been a lot of hard work putting everything together (in the 610th Brigade Support Battalion)."

Pvt. Brandy Moore
Truck driver
Co. A, 610th BSB,
4th Infantry Brigade Combat Team
Hometown: Bellevue, Neb.



"I think it's a good thing to get them out of Germany. It's a good booster for Fort Riley activities and housing."

Master Sgt. Shawn Reali
Member, Military Transition Team
Hometown: Charlotte, N.C.

Letters to editor:

Letters to the editor containing personal opinions may be sent to mike.heronemus@riley.army.mil or faxed to 239-2592. Letters must contain no libelous statements or personal accusations and must include the writer's complete name and a phone number where he or she can be reached to clarify points in the letter. Letters may be edited to fit space on the commentary page.

Need to call for help?

Fort Riley domestic violence and sexual assault response line (24 hours) – (785) 307-1373
Fort Riley Victim Advocate Program – (785) 239-9435
Chaplains – (785) 239-4357
Irwin Army Community Hospital emergency room – (785) 239-7777
Military Police (785) 239-MPMP (6767)
Local Police (on and off post) – 911

For confidential, free services, including safe shelter, call The Crisis Center, Inc. (24 hours) – (800) 727-2785
Kansas Statewide Hotline – 1-888-END-ABUSE (563-2287)
National Domestic Violence Hotline – 1-800-799-SAFE (7233)

Child Safety

School buses safe; drivers take heed

By Vanita Fiedler
Post Safety Office

Individuals often are troubled by the fact that school buses do not have seat belts. We are aware that statistics have proven that seat belt usage save lives. That leaves many wondering, why school buses don't have seat belts.

Studies have shown that school buses are the safest form of transportation in the United States. The National Highway Traffic Safety Administration reports that "school buses travel about 4.3 billion miles to transport 23.5 million children to school and school-related activities. Yet, on average, every year, six school age children die as

school bus passengers."

Large school buses are heavier and designed to distribute the force of an accident differently than cars and light trucks. The interior design distributes force through the closely spaced, sturdier structure and high energy absorbing qualities of the seats. This design is termed "compartmentalization."

Small school buses with a gross weight less than 10,000 pounds are required to install seat belts.

The National Academy of Sciences conducted research that found "there are about 815 fatalities related to school transportation per year. Only 2 percent are associated with official school transportation, compared to 22 percent due to walking/bicycling

to or from school and 75 percent from passenger car transportation to or from school."

Of the children killed, the greatest risk occurs in the loading zone for school buses.

If drivers find themselves running late or feeling the urgency to hurry and pass a bus, they should be aware they are risking the life of a child and the fine for passing a school bus while the stop arm is extended is \$300.

School starts Aug. 15. Comply with posted speed limits, allow extra driving time to reach a destination when school buses are operating and be extra observant of small pedestrians heading to school.

Everyone transporting children to and from school in privately

owned vehicles should be aware of a new Kansas law. Effective July 1, 2006, Kansas law requires children ages 4, 5, 6 and 7 to ride in a booster seat unless the child weighs more than 80 pounds or is taller than 4 feet, 9 inches.

Children ages 1, 2 and 3 must be properly restrained in a forward-facing child seat and children younger than 1 and weighing 20 pounds or less must ride in a rear-facing car seat.

Children ages 8 through 13 must be protected by a safety belt. The safest location in a car for children is the back seat.

The Installation Safety Office has certified child passenger safety seat technicians. To have your Child Restraint System inspected or installed, call 239-2514.

Kansas Kronicsles

New wife bound to make faux pas ... or 2

By Carolyn Burch-Menzies
Contributing columnist



Carolyn Burch-Menzies

So I'm not a Brittney Spears fan, but you know, people should really lay off the poor girl. She's got it rough in a way, too. She's kind of a clueless mom to two children with kind of a strange husband; and you know, all that takes some learning.

Just because you happen to be a superstar doesn't mean you know what you're doing in life until you learn by experience, you know what I mean?

Being a first-time anything is just hard, I find. Like me, for instance. Recently I had an occasion where one of her songs came to mind. I was at a ball (which in the Army, come to find out, is inexplicably referred to as "A Dining Out." That, by the way, is grammatically incorrect. Shouldn't it be "a dinner out or just "Dining Out," sans the "A" part) for the JAG people up in Manhattan.

We had hustled and bustled to try and be ready. At first my husband had said we weren't going because he was to be "in the field" (literally, in a field, in tents) until the night of the event. One day while he was gone, I went to his office and met his boss. I called him "my first sergeant." At some point in the conversation, he said we were to attend this ball.

So, I conspired a little to get the tickets at the last minute and usurp my dear husband, just a little to go to the "A DINING OUT." As soon as he came in at the end of a long week, I told "Sgt Stoic" this, per instruction from his first sergeant.

He looked annoyed and headed to the shower. A spray can of Lysol and a good long shower later, he came out throwing a fit about the whole thing. He was not amused I had been talking to his first sergeant while he was

"in the field." (I was only joking about the dinner and drinks part, hunny). Then he got madder when he discovered it wasn't actually his first sergeant. It was his captain.

"Did you call him that?" he asked incredulously, hands to his forehead once he figured out who it was I had talked to. I had, of course, but the captain was officer and gentleman enough not to correct me. My "Sgt Stoic" mumbled something about "trust me with your life, not your wife" and growled away to set up his Class A's.

His last boss really was his first sergeant, so I thought all his bosses in the Army were his first sergeant. In my corporate world, all my bosses are my managers, or all my editors are my editors, so who knew?

At the ball, I saw the secretary of the JAG Corps taking pictures of everyone and asked her if she was the POA lady. I've never been able to keep clear the difference between a POA pony and a POA person. She turned out to be neither and laughed with me about my mistake.

A POA pony, as those of us horse-oriented folks know is a Pony of the Americas (one of the original horse breeds of Kansas, incidentally). A PAO, on the other hand, is a public affairs officer, though they may or may not be an officer and may or may not be active military.

But seriously, what is it with all these abbreviations? Is it just me?

I never in my whole life encountered so many in any one

spot on the earth's surface before, and the U.S. Army is apparently full of them.

I have a good reason for not being able to recollect them all properly. I searched online recently and came up with an article that states "abbreviations and their correct recollection is actually a mathematical skill, not unlike alphabetically ordering" (which I'm also terrible at).

So there. You see, when I can't remember the proper abbreviation for most things without some kind of reminder to jog my new-Army-wife memory, it is not really my fault at all.

I would like to propose that Fort Riley make exceptions for all new Army wives, and me in particular, who cannot for the life of them recall what all these things stand for. I think the commanding general should issue some kind of abbreviation for me on those grounds. (Do generals do that sort of thing or do I have to go to the chaplain's office for that?)

Some abbreviations need closer attention, however. One is BAH, which stands for Basic Allowance for Housing, and the other is BAS, which is Basic Allowance for Subsistence. All military wives apparently seem to know the meaning of them and their related number values instinctively. And, if you know your husband's rank number, all car dealers, bankers and mortgage brokers also know the corresponding BAH and BAS by rote and can recite them to you better than a new wife can.

Another thing all new wives must know is the unit name and number.

My husband is in the "Dragon Brigade," which would be easy if that was all I had to remember.

Gosh, a simple thing like a Chinese dragon I could remember that all day, coming and going and half asleep. But, no. I have to remember an odd sequence of numbers identifying his unit and his brigade, as well as his rank (there are apparently four or five kinds of sergeants) and two phone numbers to his office.

And of course, there is his Social Security Number, which all Army wives must know because he is the "sponsor." If I get a parking ticket, my "sponsor" will hear about it. A hem.

Last April Fool's Day, I called the MP's office and told them I wanted to play a prank on him and have them call and say I'd been captured after taking pictures of the general's wife hanging laundry.

The MPs knew exactly who he was and came up with an even worse prank. They conspired to have me arrested and put in holding and have him brought to the office because his wife had been photographing in a top-secret area on post.

The agreement was that all I could say to him on the phone during my one call before the MP got on the line was, "Oops, I did it again, hunny."

Carolyn Burch-Menzies is a freelance writer, columnist and new Army wife. She and her husband recently moved to Fort Riley. She has written for Ladies Home Journal, Woman's Day and Romantic Homes magazine. She can be reached at wrmissy2003@yahoo.com.

FORT RILEY POST

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Grunt By Wayne Uhden





Unit pest training changes

By Jerold Spohn

Pest Mgt. Coordinator

In spite of the hot and dry weather, insects continue to be an annoyance at Fort Riley. Unfortunately, budget constraints have limited our ability to conduct pest control actions.

While the Conservation and Restoration Branch cannot do anything about the weather, we do have one "work around" for the budget problem, at least for one type of pest.

Several years ago, a wasp and hornet spray program was initiated at Fort Riley for individuals who had a high risk of encountering wasps and hor-

nets.

The program has been a success in terms of reducing the number of service orders called in for wasp and hornets, and the productivity of the workforce is increased by being able to take care of the issue without waiting for the Pest Control Services contractor to respond.

Individuals were able to take a class on the Fort Riley Intranet and receive a certificate to allow them to draw wasp and hornet spray from the Troop Self-Help Store.

However, with the ever increasing security on the computer systems, it is no longer possible to take the class in this

manner, at least not right now.

Conservation and Restoration Branch personnel have a solution. They have converted the class to a self-paced, old-fashioned book class available through our office.

The class takes about 20 minutes for a normal reader to go through and study and about five minutes to take the exam.

Following the exam, a certificate of completion will be e-mailed to individuals successfully completing the exam.

To arrange to take the class, call Dawn Meadows at 239-6211.

For more information on the wasp and hornet spray program, call 239-2006.

Free credit monitoring halted

By Beth Reece

Army News Service

WASHINGTON – The White House withdrew its funding request July 18 for free credit monitoring services for the 26.5 million veterans and family members whose information was thought to be impacted by the May 3 theft of a Department of Veterans Affairs computer.

Veterans Affairs Secretary R. James Nicholson announced the recovery of the stolen computer June 29, eight days after he announced that the agency would provide one year of free credit monitoring to those whose Social Security numbers and birthdates were feared stolen.

"The FBI has a high degree of confidence – based on the results of the forensic tests and other

information gathered during the investigation – that the sensitive data files were not accessed or compromised," White House Budget Director Rob Portman wrote in a letter to House Speaker J. Dennis Hastert.

"On the basis of the FBI's analysis, the administration has concluded that credit monitoring services ... will no longer be necessary," Portman added.

Despite good news that the database was uncompromised, VA continues soliciting bids from companies that provide data-breach analysis to ensure information is kept secure in the future, said VA spokesman Matt Burns.

"The VA has funds in its budget that can be used for this purpose,"

Burns said, "and there will be no diminution in the quality of health care and other services provided

to veterans as a result of this expenditure."

Since the theft, numerous personnel changes have taken place in the Office of Policy and Planning, where the breach occurred. VA also has hired a special advisor for information security and re-energized its cyber security and privacy awareness training.

As FBI's "high degree of confidence" is not 100 percent assurance that veterans' personal information is safe, Army officials recommend Soldiers continue monitoring their credit reports.

The Fair Credit Reporting Act requires consumer reporting companies Equifax, Experian and Trans Union to provide one free credit report a year to each requesting citizen. To receive a report, go to annualcreditreport.com or call (877) 322-8228.

Post, Army news briefly

Blood drive:

The next Fort Riley blood drive is from 11 a.m. to 5 p.m. Aug. 15 and from 9 a.m. to 3 p.m. Aug. 16 at Riley's conference Center. For an appointment, call (800) GIVE LIFE. Walk-in donors are welcome.

Best of America:

The Best of America by Horseback television segment filmed at Fort Riley in November 2005 will air the week of Aug. 9 as part of the "Lakeview Plantation" show on RFD (Rural Family Development) Channel 379 on DirecTV and on Dish TV Channel 9409. No time was available.

Retirees:

The July 26 retirement ceremony honored 21 military and one civilian retirees. Honored were:

Maj. John C. Ford, Headquarters and Headquarters Company, 3rd Brigade; Maj. Francis P. Koopman III, 125th Forward Support Battalion; Chief Warrant Officer, Walter R. Lee, 125th FSB;

Command Sgt. Maj. James M. Noble, U.S. Army Garrison;

1st Sgt. Alan J. Bouska, 4th Battalion, 1st Field Artillery; 1st Sgt. Patrick D. Davis, 70th Engineer Battalion; Master Sgt. Robert K. Welton, Dental Activity;

Sgt. 1st Class Reginald T. Bailey, 331st Signal Company; Sgt. 1st Class Jeffrey D.

Thomas, 172nd Chemical Company; Sgt. 1st Class Jerome D. Pryor, 1st Battalion,

34th Armor; Sgt. 1st Class John W. Jones, 101st Forward Support Battalion; Sgt. 1st

Class Allen T. Gibbs, 101st FSB; Sgt. 1st Class Joseph A. Carney, 596th Signal Compa-

ny; Sgt. 1st Class Catherine M. Bernal, 977th Military Police Company; Sgt. 1st

Class Lisa M. Bennett, 125th FSB; Sgt. 1st Class Joseph F. Copeland, Headquarters and

Headquarters Company, 24th Infantry Division (Mech); Sgt. 1st Class Scott D. Odell, 4th

Bn., 1st FA; Staff Sgt. Ricky A. McCant, 1st Battalion, 41st Infantry;

Staff Sgt. Douglas A. Kennard, 1st Bn., 41st Inf.; Staff Sgt. Howard D. Pastran, DENTAC;

Staff Sgt. Susan A. Stewart, Medical Activity; and Mrs. Patricia Pence, Directorate of Public Works.

Regimental honor:

On July 6, at the "Black Lions" dining in, retired Brig. Gen. James E. Shelton, honorary colonel of the 28th

Infantry Regiment, was awarded the Order of Saint Maurice. Shelton made significant contributions to the Infantry the past 49 years and within his 26 years of commissioned service.

He served in Vietnam with the "Black Lions," served in eight Infantry divisions with command in the 82nd Airborne Division and 24th Infantry Division (Mech).

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Post/Skidmore

Officials break ground for new 1st Inf. Div. (Mech) headquarters building

Col. "Ty" Smith, Fort Riley's garrison commander; M.A. Mortenson of M.A. Mortenson Construction, Maj. Gen. Dennis Hardy, commanding general, 24th Infantry Division (Mech.) and Fort Riley; Col. Walter Gilliam, 1st Infantry Division (Mech) chief of staff; and Rex Goodnight, U.S. Army Corps of Engineers area engineer, symbolically break ground on the new 1st Inf. Div. headquarters at Fort Riley July 27. The \$50 million, 135,830 square foot project is scheduled for completion in November 2007. The headquarters will provide command and control capabilities for a modular division headquarters in peacetime, in support of military operations other than war, during transition to war and for wartime operations. The building will provide the physical space and global information grid connectivity needed for normal operations, collaborative planning and routine and secure communications over the global information grid. The headquarters consists of four mobile command posts. Administrative and special space is provided for a mobile command post, a main command post and two tactical command posts.

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4th Cav. 'patrols' bomb range

By Robert K. Timmons
4th IBCT Public Affairs

SALINA, Kan. —The scouts silently finished pre-combat checks and inspections, combat-loaded their "Humvees" and headed out, expecting to face an enemy lurking in the scrubs.

The scouts of 1st Squadron, 4th Cavalry Regiment, 4th Infantry Brigade Combat Team, used the Smoky Hills Range to execute various combat skills during platoon external evaluations July 24-28 and to determine their strengths and weaknesses.

"Today I'm hoping to see a lot of learning," said 2nd Lt. Robert W. Humphrey, platoon leader,

before his unit took to the dusty trails July 27, "so when we return to Fort Riley, we know what we need to work on."

The exercising platoons faced evaluations on how they reacted to improvised explosive devices and ambushes, how they secured an airfield and how they spoke to people playing roles as Iraqi nationals.

When Humphrey's patrol came upon the airfield, the Scouts' vehicles fanned out in supporting positions as the platoon approached the objective. At the objective, Humphrey offered the airfield caretaker food and water. In return, the local quickly provided the Scouts with the location of an arms cache.

Like most units of the 4th IBCT, the 1st Sqn., 4th Cav., contains a mixture of combat-tested Soldiers and others fresh from school.

"The (noncommissioned officer) leadership has been outstanding. They understand that everyone here is new," Humphrey said. "My platoon sergeant and NCOs are helping to mentor me and at the same time mentor the rest of the unit towards a common goal. I see a lot of coming together with the entire troop I'm in."

"Being out in the field with the platoon really brings the guys together," he added. "They see each other's strengths and weaknesses and learn how to fill in the gaps."

During the training, the cavalry scouts learned how to work together and how to function as a combined-arms team with AH-64 Apache attack helicopters circling overhead like hawks looking for prey. The 4th IBCT's 610th Brigade Support Battalion provided various support assets, including food, fuel and a wrecker.

One Soldier said the exercise brought the unit together as a family.

"It's like a normal family," said Pfc. Michael Phillips of Troop B. "Anytime we go to the field, when you sleep in a truck together and we have to rely on each other, anytime you have to do that, it will build relationships like a family."



4th IBCT/Timmons

Second Lt. Robert Humphrey, 1st Sqn., 4th Cav. Rgmt., hands food to a person playing the role of an Iraqi civilian July 27 during training at Smoky Hills Air National Guard Range near Salina, Kan.

Troop School now trains lifeguards

Staff report

The Troop School at Fort Riley has begun Lifeguard Certification for selected Soldiers in each unit. The new mandated training is designed to provide units the capability to support their own drown proofing program.

Course standards match those of the American Red Cross lifeguard training program.

Before attending the course, an applicant must successfully complete the pre-course swim test.

Those standards require a person to swim continuously for 500 yards, using the front crawl for the first 200 yards, the breaststroke for the next 100 yards and either

stroke or a combination of them for the final 200 yards.

The tested applicant also must demonstrate rhythmic breathing and propellant kick.

The tested applicant must demonstrate a proper front crawl stroke and breaststroke for 20 yards. He or she must also dive from the surface to at least 7 feet below the surface, retrieve a 10-pound object, bring the object to the surface and swim with it for 20 yards while both hands are on the object and his or her face is out of the water at all times.

For more information about the course schedule and how to apply, call Raymond Arnold at 239-9971.



Troop School photo

Applicants to become unit lifeguards are briefed by instructors at Eyster Pool on post.

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Fort Riley Community Life

Friday, August 4, 2006

America's Warfighting Center

Page 9

Community news briefly

School enrollment:

All Geary County Unified School District 475 students who enrolled in the district last year should soon be receiving mail-in enrollment packets for 2006-07.

Students new to the district and who pre-registered by June 30 should also be receiving mail-in enrollment packets.

Students and parents are asked to complete and submit enrollment information in the self-addressed return envelope provided in the enrollment packet by July 28.

USD 475 enrollment centers are accepting new student enrollments as follows:

Junction City High School, grades 9-12, weekdays from 7:30 a.m. to 3 p.m.

Junction City Middle School, grades K-8, for students living in Junction City and Geary County, weekdays from 8 a.m. to 3:30 p.m.

Fort Riley Middle School, grades K-8, for students living on Fort Riley, weekdays from 8 a.m. to 3:30 p.m.

Questions regarding enrollment may be directed to one of the enrollment centers or to the Devin Education Support Center at 717-4000.

Catholic Mass:

An additional Catholic Mass is scheduled at 4:30 p.m. Saturdays in the St. Mary Chapel, 3 Barry Avenue, on post.

For more information, call 239-4815 or 239-3359.

Auto class:

An advanced auto repair class is scheduled from 6 to 7 p.m. Aug. 10 at the Auto Skills Center on post.

For more information, call 239-9764.

Toastmasters:

Old Bill's Toastmasters is sponsoring a membership drive. The next meeting is scheduled from 5:30 to 6:30 p.m. Aug. 17, at Fire Station No. 2, 2245 Lacy Dr., Junction City.

Old Bill's Toastmasters meets the first and third Thursdays of each month. Anyone from the Fort Riley and Junction City community interested in building their leadership skills and overcoming the fear of public speaking is welcome to attend. Meetings are always free and open to the general public.

For specific information about the meeting or directions, call Jim Hill at 761-1130.

Cheerleading class:

Cheerleading 101 will be taught from 6 to 7 p.m. Thursdays for children ages 6 to 10.

For more information, call 239-4847.

Stay In Step with Fort Riley

See what's happening on Fort Riley cable Channel 2 every day at 6:30 a.m., 8 a.m., noon, 6 p.m. and 10 p.m.

Fair to help prepare kids for school

Staff report

Geary County Unified School District 475 joins Fort Riley's Child & Youth Services, DARE program, Exceptional Family Member Program and Family Advocacy Program and numerous other community organizations

Aug. 5 for a "Ready To Learn Fair" from 10 a.m. to 3 p.m. at the Twelfth Street Community Center, 1002 West 12th St., in Junction City.

All children, parents and caregivers are welcome to attend.

The fair, the rides, the activities and the food are free.

Mary Stauffer, executive director of Communities In Schools, said because of extensive community collaboration she expects this fair to be very successful.

"Fort Riley's involvement and the generous support from the local community will make this Ready To Learn Fair bigger and

better than past fairs," she said, adding that she hoped everyone, even those without school-aged children, would attend the fair.

...

Planned activities include:

- A bike rodeo with free bike

helmets for the first 100 students who bring their bikes and participate in getting them inspected and registered.

- Trained health professionals will provide free vision, hearing and dental screenings for chil-

See Fair, Page 10

Big blue

MWR Bear gets a name

Staff report

Morale, Welfare and Recreation's mascot, the MWR bear, threw a party June 28 at Rally Point for Deziree McGraw Cox. The party was to thank Cox for bestowing the big blue bear with his new name - Riley.

The "Name Our Bear" contest ran for the first half of June and netted the blue guy 25 possible names.

The organization first got the mascot in March because it wanted something to represent MWR for the kids to look to and identify with MWR, said Jennifer McLachlan, MWR marketing assistant.

Riley has already been to a few events around post and will be making more appearances in the future. He'll represent MWR at various post events, such as the Scion Slam and 10-5-2 Prairie Run and just pop up around post for different occasions.



Riley watches a golfer tee off during the Garrison Golf Tournament at one of his first appearances on post.



Deziree McGraw Cox dances with Riley, the MWR mascot, at Rally Point June 28.



Heat injury can be serious

By Jan Clark
LACH PAO

Heat-related illness is always a concern during hot weather. Heat and exertion, day after day, produce a cumulative effect on an individual. That cumulative effect can be characterized as heat stress (heat cramps), heat exhaustion and heat stroke.

Heat stress includes faintness, painful muscle spasms and cramps and prickly heat caused by a skin rash.

Heat exhaustion, which is more serious, includes headache, dizziness, clammy skin, muscle fatigue, chest pain, breathing problems and nausea. Medical attention is necessary if these conditions persist.

Heat stroke is a life-threatening condition that should be considered an emergency. Headache, hot and dry skin, a body temperature of 103 degrees or higher, difficulty breathing, disorientation and changes in consciousness are symptoms of heat stroke. People with such symptoms should be cooled quickly with cold, wet sheets or a cool bath and taken to the nearest hospital.

Individuals most at risk for heat injuries are those not in peak physical condition, a new Soldier or trainee, laborers or those accustomed to a cooler climate. Acclimatizing to a change in climate

See Heat, Page 10

Soldier makes a difference for area Boy Scouts

By Jack Lee
1st Mob. Det.

A Fort Riley Soldier is making a difference in the lives of young men in the area by volunteering in his off duty time to the Boys Scouts of America.

Staff Sgt. Vincent Van Cleave of Headquarters and Headquarters Company, 1st Brigade Combat Team, 1st Infantry Division (Mech), is the brigade's schools noncommissioned officer and assistant operation's NCO when he's on duty.

When he's not on duty, he's the troop leader for two area Boy Scout troops. "My son, Andrew, got involved when he was 9 years old. He liked it and stayed with it, and I became a troop leader," Van Cleave said.

Eighteen-year-old Andrew is a senior at Junction City High School and an Eagle Scout.

"I was deployed to Iraq when my son planned and finished his Eagle project. In it, he showed how well the Boy Scouts prepared him to be a leader in his commu-

nity. I had to fight back tears when I read the letter he sent me," Van Cleave admitted.

The troop leader has seen similar growth in other boys. One that stands out is a young man named Shawn.

"Shawn was a little bitty runty sort of an 11-year-old. He was very shy with low self-esteem. The first campout he came on, we had to take him home because he couldn't function," Van Cleave said.

Now Shawn's life is completely different. Van Cleave is positive that Scouting helped Shawn become more self-assured. "He's a senior now, is a member of the all-state choir, attended the national choir camp, been in several musicals at school, on the honor roll and an Eagle Scout," Van Cleave said.

Shawn is one of many. "I've had about 200 boys over the years in troops," Van Cleave said. "Scouting instills organization and leadership skills."

To nurture those skills, the troop members decide what activities they want to participate in; leaders stand to the side to offer

advice and assistance when needed. "We encourage the boys to experience life," Van Cleave said.

Van Cleave also feels that Scouting has helped him become a better Soldier and leader. "I've learned a good deal about leadership from my boys," Van Cleave said.

"The boys come from different backgrounds, with different needs. I've learned that I have to be flexible in dealing with them; not all approaches work the same on each boy," he explained. "I am much more approachable," he said.

Van Cleave also volunteers to be a counselor at Camp Hanson at Kerwin Reservoir in northwestern Kansas. "It's an outdoor camp, with outdoor activities. Summer camp is a lot of fun," he said.

Helping boys mature and having fun doing it brings much satisfaction to Van Cleave. In fact, "I don't ever see a time that I am not involved with Scouting in some aspect," he said.



Staff Sgt. Vincent Van Cleave, HIIC, 1st BCT, helps a Scout with his project. Van Cleave volunteers as a troop leader for two area Boy Scout troops.





Community news briefly

Family team building:

The Soldiers and Family Support Center seeks people interested in sharing their knowledge and military family life experiences with others by teaching Army Family Team Building.

An Instructor Training Course is scheduled from 8:30 a.m. to 3 p.m. Aug. 21-23 at the center, Building 7264.

Call 239-9435 to register on or before Aug. 7 or send e-mail to becky.willis@us.army.mil.

Child care expenses will be covered for volunteers and participants. Participants are asked to commit to volunteering with the AFTB program for a minimum of one year.

Welcome coffee:

The Fort Riley Officers' and Civilians' Spouses' Club will host its annual welcome coffee from 11 a.m. to 1 p.m. Aug. 17 at Quarters 5 on Barry Avenue in the Main Post area of Fort Riley.

The coffee is an open house to greet and welcome spouses of officers and civilian employees in grade GS-7 and above who are new to the Fort Riley area. The coffee offers newcomers an opportunity to see what Fort Riley's OCSC is all about and to get a glimpse of the upcoming year's activities and

planned charity contributions.

Child care is available through the Armed Services YMCA and Fort Riley's Child Development Center on a first-come, first-served basis. Contact Stephanie Seigel at (785) 784-4298 to review child care policies and to make child care reservations.

Those who wish to attend should RSVP to their commander's spouse or coffee group or calling Holly Smith at (785) 784-8454 by Aug. 15.

Support Center:

Aug. 8 – 8 a.m. to 5 p.m., First-Term Soldier Financial Readiness Class

Aug. 9 – 9 a.m. to noon, Checkbook Management, Banking Services and Basic Budget Development Class; 1:30 p.m., Permanent Change of Station Briefing – Germany

Aug. 11 – 8:30 a.m. to noon, Newcomer's Orientation

Aug. 17 – 9 to 11 a.m., Family Readiness Group Leader Class for new FRG leaders and commanders. The class teaches the do's and don'ts of operating an effective FRG

Pre-registration is required to attend this class. Free child care will be available; shot records will be required for all children. Call 239-9435 to register.

Soldier Family Support Center (SFSC) Phone 239-9435

Heat

continued from page 9

takes most people about two weeks.

With gradual and carefully planned increases in outdoor activities performed over a two-week period, most incidences of heat injury can be avoided.

Other simple tips to prevent heat-related illness include increased rest cycles, more frequent water breaks and sufficient

water intake, sufficient acclimatization time and decreased consecutive days outdoors.

When possible, more indoor activities in temperature-controlled environments will help avoid heat injuries.

A heat-related illness also can occur in one day or with one event on a day a person exerts extreme physical activity.

However, most heat illness cases that arrive at the hospital for treatment are not from a single exposure.

For more information regarding climatic injuries, visit the MEDDAC Preventive Medicine Web site at <http://iach.amedd.army.mil/departments/prevmcd.asp> or call Preventive Medicine Service at 239-7323.

HOUSE FILL AD

HOUSE FILL AD

dren.

- Registration for HealthWave and HealthConnect insurance, which are low-cost or no-cost dental and health care plans for Kansans.

For students under age 19, there are no exclusions for pre-existing conditions or deductibles to meet. HealthWave representatives will be available to help parents register.

Several documents are needed for registration. Call (785) 717-4000 to find out what is required.

- School bus rides for students who will be riding a bus to school for the first time.

- Free inflatable play equipment.

ment, sensory tables, face-painting booths and storytelling.

- The Surrey Fire Trailer will be on hand to help youngsters learn what to do in case of fire.

- Sponsoring and participating community organizations will have informational booths and representatives to answer questions.

- Free food and beverages.

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Fort Riley Sports & Recreation

Friday, August 4, 2006

America's Warfighting Center

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Sports news in brief

For hunters:

The Fort Riley Outdoorsmen Group will sponsor an evening presentation about hunting rules on post. The presentation will be given by a member of the post's Environmental Division at 7 p.m. Aug. 15 in the Conservation Office on Huachuca Road.

Information will be provided about changes to Fort Riley Regulation 210-15, including hunter safety requirements, permit fee changes, revocation and suspension schedules and vehicle markers.

A grill will be available at 6 p.m. for anyone who wishes to grill their supper before the presentation.

Bowling league:

A new mixed bowling league will begin play at 6:30 p.m. Sept. 8 at Custer Hill Bowling Center on post.

The "Friday Nite Mixed League" is being billed as a "fun league." Bowlers can sign up at the bowling center or call (785) 238-6769.

Soldiers to wrestle world's best

*By Tim Hipps**Army News Service*

WASHINGTON — Two Soldiers in the U.S. Army World Class Athlete Program have qualified for the 2006 World Wrestling Championships.

Sgt. Tina George recently joined WCAP teammate Staff Sgt. Dremiel Byers on Team USA scheduled to compete Sept. 26 through Oct. 1 at the World Wrestling Championships in Guangzhou, China. Both are stationed at Fort Carson, Colo.

A two-time world silver medalist in the women's 121-pound freestyle division, George made her seventh U.S. world team June 30 by defeating reigning national champion Sharon Jacobson of El Cajon, Calif., in the Women's World Team Trials for USA Wrestling at Colorado Springs (Colo.) Christian School.

George won the first match against Gator Wrestling Club's Jacobson by scores of 1-1, 4-6, 5-3 and prevailed 6-4, 7-1 in the second round of their best-of-three championship series.

"It showcased the level of training that I've been in," said George, 27, who regularly wrestles against men in the Army



U.S. Army World Class Athlete Program Sgt. Tina George (right) wins a bronze medal April 15 with a 2-1, 4-1 victory over Leigh Jaynes of Colorado Springs, Colo., in the 121-pound women's freestyle division of the 2006 U.S. National Wrestling Championships at Las Vegas Convention Center. George is scheduled to wrestle for Team USA in the 2006 World Wrestling Championships Sept. 26 through Oct. 1 in Guangzhou, China.

USAFSC Public Affairs/Hipps

World Class Athlete Program. "It was a very physical match. At the end of the second match, she had me in a move that could have

been a pinning combination, but I decided then that I wasn't getting pinned and I wasn't going to go to three matches."

George hopes to next atone for setbacks at the hands of Japan's

See Wrestling, Page 13

All-Stars balance duties, baseball

*Alison Kohler**Asst. Com. Rel. Officer*

Unlike the teams they play against, the U.S. Military All-Stars baseball team face world issues as well as opponents on the diamond. Many players are plucked from the team mid-season to serve in operations around the world, such as Operation Iraqi Freedom and Operation Enduring Freedom.

"Our general manager is going to Iraq. We thought it was going to be September, but we just found out it moved up to August," said Greg Szenderski, the All-Stars' assistant general manager and former pitcher.

The All-Stars were in the area to play against the Junction City Generals July 26 and 27. The Generals won the first game 5-1 and the second

See All-Stars, Page 12

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PAO/Kohler
Assistant All-Stars Coach Eric Lally looks at Chief Warrant Officer Stephen Spicer to take direction on how operate the AH-64 Apache helicopter guns while Greg Szendzinski (rear left), assistant general manager for the U.S. Military All-Stars baseball team, acts sits in the pilot's seat. Lally has been a member of the team on and off for 11 years.

Company level slow-pitch softball scores

National League

July 19
Btry. A, 2nd Bn., 32nd FA, defeated 172nd Chem. Co. 20-13
24th Trans. Co. defeated 596th Signal Co. 14-11
Sve. Btry., 4th Bn., 1st FA, defeated 2nd Bn., 1st Avn., 14-2
Co. D, 610th BSB, defeated HHC, 97th MP Bn./PMO, 9-5
Co. D, 610th BSB, defeated 172nd Chem. Co. 12-10
HHC, 3rd BCT, defeated Co. A, 610th BSB, 9-1
Co. C, 1st Bn., 13th Armor, won by forfeit over Co. B, 610th BSB

July 25
Co. A, 610th BSB, won by forfeit over 3rd Bn., 362nd Armor/2nd Bde., 91st Div.

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Co. B, 610th BSB, won by forfeit over 3rd Bn., 362nd Armor/2nd Bde., 91st Div.
Btry. C, 4th Bn., 1st FA, defeated Co. B, 610th BSB, 15-9
Sve. Btry., 4th Bn., 1st FA, defeated CGMCG 16-9
2nd Bn., 1st Avn., defeated Co. B, 125th FSB, 5-4
2nd Bn., 1st Avn., defeated 596th Signal Co. 15-13
Co. C, 70th "Eng. Bn., defeated Co. G, 610th BSB, 17-5
Co. G, 610th BSB, defeated Co. A, 610th BSB, 12-7
Btry. A, 2nd Bn., 23rd FA, defeated HHC, 2nd Bn., 16th Inf., 8-7

MILITARY OUTLET
2 x 3.5"
Black Only
2x3.5 Miliz Outlet Aug TF

July 27
Co. E, 610th BSB, defeated Sve. Btry., 4th Bn., 1st FA, 16-5
Co. B, 125th FSB, defeated Co. G, 610th BSB, 13-10
Co. B, 125th FSB, defeated Co. #, 610th BSB, 10-9
3rd Bn., 362nd Armor/2nd Bde., 91st Div., defeated Btry. A, 2nd Bn., 32nd FA, 8-7
3rd Bn., 362nd Armor/2nd Bde., 91st Div., defeated 596th Signal Co. 9-1
2nd Bn., 1st Avn., defeated HHC, 2nd Bn., 16th Inf., 13-12
Co. B, 610th BSB, defeated HHC, 3rd

See Scores, Page 14

All-Stars

continued from page 11

game 7-4.

Between games, the All-Stars stopped at Fort Riley the afternoon of July 27. The team ate in the 4th Infantry Brigade Combat Team's dining facility, visited Marshall Army Airfield and took a tour of the Commanding General's Mounted Color Guard stables.

At the airfield, the ball players were able to crawl inside UH-60 Black Hawk and AH-64 Apache helicopters and visit with Soldiers of the new Combat Aviation Brigade forming on post as part of the 1st Infantry Division (Mech).

"It's the first time I've seen birds this close, the first time I could sit inside them," said pitcher Lucas Ledbetter.

"It's impressive," said shortstop Jose Nuñez.

Szendzinski said the team usually begins with 30 players and, by season's end, they have only about 10 of the original players remaining.

"Quite a few have been recalled (for military duty)," he said.

Nuñez also faces the possibility of deploying to Iraq in February, but he said he is not sure what he will do next year. "It would be

fine if I go. You feel like you are doing something with your life," he said.

The shortstop played professional baseball for eight years for the New York Mets and Baltimore Orioles before he was injured. He said he joined the Marine Corps in 2003 because he has family in the Marines.

Nuñez knew about military baseball teams and thought he might be able to play on one. But just after enlisting, he deployed to Afghanistan for eight months. "It was a blast. It all depends on the attitude, and I take it as a fun part of your life. I don't mind whether I go or stay here," he said.

The All-Star team is based in San Diego and is comprised mostly of Sailors with some Marines. No Soldiers play on the team. Szendzinski attributed much of that to the difficulty Army personnel have getting orders to play for the All-Stars. He said they had a few Soldiers try out, and "we liked them; but then they checked with their command and they couldn't come out," he said.

In most cases, players try out for the team. If they are selected, they request orders for temporary

assigned duty to play with the team. The length of time they play on the team varies, and Szendzinski said there is no typical length of time.

Assistant Coach Eric Lally has been with the team on and off for 11 years. He said the hardest part is the schedule. "It's so intense." He said the team participates in public appearances, tours and interviews in addition to playing about 40 games per season.

Head Coach Carroll Land, who coached at a university for 39 years and volunteers for the All-Stars, said he likes that servicemembers who are about to deploy or are returning from a deployment are able to participate on the team. "It's a morale builder for these guys," he said.

With a 34-13 record as of July 27 and an appearance in the 72nd National Baseball Congress World Series in Wichita, Kan., the team does well, considering the challenge of retaining players. "We just don't have as much time to build cohesion. We have to change over half a team each year," Szendzinski said.

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Softball standings

(as of July 31)

National League		2/2 HET	4	9	HHD/Co. A, 101st FSB	3	17
	Wins Losses	172nd Chem. Co.	5	13	Co. B, 101st FSB	17	7
HHC, 3rd BCT	2	12	1st Maint. Co.	5	10	D Tnp., 2nd Sqdn., 4th Cav	11
Co. C, 1st Bn., 41st Inf	6	6	3/362 Armor, 2/91st	8	8	HHC, 24th Inf. Div. (Mech)	8
Co. C, 1st Bn., 13th Armor	16	1	CGMCG	1	5	15th Fin.	2
Co. A, 2nd Bn., 70th Armor	11	4				977th MP Co.	7
Co. C, 2nd Bn., 70th Armor	4	7				MEDDAC/DENTAC	13
Btry. C, 4th Bn., 1st FA	14	7				10th ASOS	7
Co. B, 125th FSB	15	3				116th MP Co.	8
596th Sig. Co.	6	13				HHD 97th MP/PMO	4
HHC, 2nd Bn., 16th Inf.	10	10				2nd Bn., 1st Avn.	6
2nd Sqdn., 4th Cav	14	3				2/356th, 2/91st	3
Btry. A, 2nd Bn., 32nd FA	6	14					
Co. A, 610th BSB	4	19					
Co. B, 610th BSB	10	8					
Co. D, 610th BSB	2	14					
Co. E, 610th BSB	9	7					
Co. F, 610th BSB	1	6					
Co. G, 610th BSB	12	5					
HHC, 4th IBCT STB	0	2					
24th Trans. Co.	11	6					

American League		WinsLosses
HHC, 1st BCT	6	14
Co. B, 1st Bn., 16th Inf. #1	0	3
Co. B, 1-16th Inf. Nationals	11	6
Co. C, 1st Bn., 16th Inf.	16	1
HHC, 1st Bn., 34th Armor	15	2
Co. C, 1st Bn., 34th Armor	5	11
Btry. B, 1st Bn., 5th FA	14	6
Btry. D, 1st Bn., 5th FA	13	5
HHC, 2nd Bn., 34th Armor	14	3
Co. A, 2nd Bn., 34th Armor	12	4
HHC, 1st Eng. Bn.	4	15
FSC, 1st Eng. Bn.	8	13
111th Sapper Co.	7	14
41st Eng. Co.	8	9
72nd Eng. Co.	8	8

Battalion League		WinsLosses
1st Eng. Bn.	3	7
2nd Bn., 34th Armor	9	1
MEDDAC/DENTAC	6	4
610TH BSB	2	8

See scores from company level slow-pitch softball games on pages 12 and 14.

Wrestling

continued from page 11

Saori Yoshida, a three-time world champion who defeated her in the finals of the 2003 World Championships at New York's Madison Square Garden and at the 2002 World Championships in Halkida, Greece.

"The woman to beat is Yoshida, and I think my chances this year are higher than any other year," George said. "I'm really looking forward to competing against her and showing her what I've learned. I don't feel the normal stress of year-round competition because I had quite a bit of time off this year. As a result, I'm not feeling the typical burnout. I think it's going to be a great year for me."

Byers, the 2002 world champion in the Greco-Roman 264.5-pound division, earned his third berth in the World Championships at the men's World Team Trials for USA Wrestling on May 27 in Sioux City, Iowa.

"I want to be more aggressive on my feet, for sure, and just real-

ly avoid making any of those mental mistakes that I did last year," said Byers, who lost in the second round of the 2005 World Championships in Budapest, Hungary, to eventual fifth-place finisher Georgiv Tsurutsumia of Kazakhstan.

"It's kind of a redemption thing at this point — focus on getting into the body on these guys and getting back to the guy who won the world in 2002."

Byers hopes to get another opportunity to wrestle reigning world champion Mijail Lopez of Cuba, who defeated him in the heavyweight finale of the 2006 Pan American Championships on June 3 in Rio de Janeiro, Brazil.

"In the Pan Am Championships, the first period was all of what it was supposed to have been and then my mind went south," Byers said of his most recent showdown with Lopez. "He picked it up and then it wasn't even a fight anymore, so I need to get that back. That's been haunting me and bothering me so I've

got to fix that."

Although Byers' ultimate goal is to win an Olympic gold medal as promised to his deceased grandfather, he contends that the world championship is the toughest test in amateur wrestling.

"You're going to get a good showing from everybody here because everybody is putting their best out," Byers said. "In the rest of the world, that's more important than the Olympics. That's just the way it is. I know now that it's harder to win a world championship than an Olympic medal. Only 20 [athletes in each weight class] compete in the Olympics and everyone is at the World Championships."

"I just want to be on that podium. I want to get our flag raised and our song played. That's most important right now."

Tim Hipps writes for the U.S. Army Community and Family Support Center Public Affairs Office.

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Scores

continued from page 12

BCT, 10-5
HHC, 3rd BCT, defeated Co. C, 610th
BSB, 17-0
Co. C, 1st Bn., 13th Armor, defeated
Co. C, 610th BSB, 16-8
24th Trans. Co. defeated Co. C, 610th
BSB, 25-5

July 31
2nd Bn., 1st Avn., won by forfeit over
Btry. A, 2nd Bn., 32nd FA
2nd Bn., 1st Avn., defeated Co. A,
610th BSB, 13-10
3rd Bn., 362nd Armor/2nd Bde., 91st
Div., defeated Co. C, 70th Eng. Bn., 11-8
3rd Bn., 362nd Armor/2nd Bde., 91st
Div., defeated Co. B, 125th FSB, 22-20
Co. G, 610th BSB, defeated Svc. Btry.,
4th Bn., 1st FA, 20-15
596th Signal Co. defeated 172nd
Chem. Co. 19-0
HHC, 2nd Bn., 16th Inf., defeated
172nd Chem. Co. 16-2
HHC, 2nd Bn., 16th Inf., defeated
CGMCG 21-8
Co. C, 1st Bn., 41st Inf., defeated Co.
D, 610th BSB, 15-3

American League

July 19
HHC, 24th Inf. Div., won by forfeit
over HHC 1st BCT
MEDDAC/DENTAC defeated
HHC/Co. A, 101st FSB, 16-5
Btry. D, 1st Bn., 5th FA, defeated 15th
Finance 13-9
HHC, 24th Inf. Div., defeated
HHD/Co. A, 101st FSB, 8-5
Co. B, 101st FSB, defeated Btry. B,
1st Bn., 5th FA, 17-14

July 25
Btry. B, 1st Bn., 5th FA, defeated
HHD/Co. A, 101st FSB, 20-0
Co. B, 101st FSB, defeated 2nd Bn.,
356th Regt./2nd Bde., 91st Div., 16-2
Btry. B, 1st Bn., 5th FA, defeated D
Tnp., 4th Cav., 11-4
Btry. A, 2nd Bn., 32nd FA, won by
forfeit over Co. C, 1st Bn., 34th Armor
HHC, 1st Bn., 34th Armor, defeated
MEDDAC/DENTAC 18-10
MEDDAC/DENTAC defeated 977th

MP Co. 15-3

July 27
HHC, 1st BCT, won by forfeit over
Co. B, 101st FSB
Btry. D, 1st Bn., 5th FA, defeated
HHD/Co. A, 101st FSB, 30-7
977th MP Co. defeated 15th Finance
7-4
977th MP Co. defeated HHC, 24th Inf.
Div., 14-2

July 31
116th MP Co. won by forfeit over 10th
ASOS
Co. B, 101st FSB, defeated Btry. D,
1st Bn., 5th FA, 14-13
Co. A, 2nd Bn., 34th Armor, won by
forfeit over 41st Eng. Co.
HHC, 2nd Bn., 34th Armor, defeated
15th Finance 13-4
977th MP Co. defeated Btry. D, 1st
Bn., 5th FA, 21-9
D Tnp., 4th Cav., won by forfeit over
10th ASOS

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Leisure time ideas

At the movies:

Doors open at 6:30 p.m. Tickets cost \$3.50 for adults and \$1.75 for children 11 and under. Children under the age of 5 are free except during children's matinees or expected sell-outs.

Aug. 4 — Click (PG-13) 98 min

Aug. 5 — Superman Returns (PG-13) 153 min

Aug. 6 — Waist Deep (R) 97 min

Aug. 10 — Click (PG-13) 98 min

Aug. 11 — Superman Returns

(PG-13) 153 min
Aug. 12 — Pirates of the Caribbean: Dead Man's Chest (PG-13) 145 min
For more information, call 784-2226 or 784-2640.

Lawrence:

What: Family Arts Festival and free outdoor concert featuring The Wailin' Jennys

When: 6 p.m., Aug. 18

Where: 1600 Stewart Dr., Lied Center of Kansas

Phone: (785) 864-2787
Web site: www.lied.ku.edu

Manhattan:

What: "Recent Works" by Kari Lennartson. Art exhibit of bold abstract paintings that explore the various meanings of "home."

When: Through Sept. 2. Museum is open 10 a.m. to 5 p.m. Monday through Friday and 1 to 4 p.m. Saturday.

Where: Manhattan Arts Center, 1520 Poyntz Avenue
Admission: Free

Web site: www.manhattanarts.org

Abilene:

What: Wild Bill Hickok Rodeo

When: 7:30 p.m. each night, through Aug. 5

Where: Rodeo grounds

Admission: Advance – adults, \$8, children (6-12), \$5.

At the gate – adults, \$10; children (6-12), \$5. Kids 5 and under free.

Phone: (785) 263-4570
Web site: www.WildBill-

HickokRodeo.com
...

What: Western Heritage Festival, a community-wide celebration of Abilene's western history.

When: 9 a.m. to 7 p.m., August 5-6

Where: Eisenhower Park

Phone: (800) 569-5915

Junction City:

What: Concert in the park. Smoky Hill River band plays songs from the 1980s and 1990s.

They have revived country dance

music, performing hits by such artists as Alabama and Ricky Skaggs.

When: 7:30 p.m., Aug. 12
Where: Heritage Park, Sixth and Washington Streets

Admission: Free
...

What: Concert in the park. Legacy, a church band, performs intense sounds that combines the tempo of rock and roll with Christian music.

When: 7:30 p.m., Aug. 26
Where: Heritage Park, Sixth and Washington Streets

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